

## 10 Action Plan

The following action plan is a summary of the recommendations in the main body of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2011. It informs the Swindon Sure Start Partnership annual business plan and so has been formatted using the same categories. There are two recommendations specifically related to childcare sufficiency where further work is needed to understand fully parents' needs.

### 10.1 Early Education

- Make equipment grants available to new funded early education provision in areas where there is unmet demand
- Use section 106 funding and the Community Infrastructure Levy to support the provision of early education
- Target families in areas of low take up, especially in disadvantaged areas, to ensure parents are aware of the early education entitlement
- Investigate difficulties with supply of places and devise a strategy to improve the availability as appropriate

### 10.2 Development of childcare places

- Support new development of out of school provision where there is shortfall in capacity

### 10.3 Information Duty

- Increase the percentage of childminders who return their information about their services in order to be able to assess whether there are sufficient flexible services for children aged 0 – 14
- Work with Children's Centres to increase awareness of how to find out about childcare information and support for paying for childcare
- Review current strategies for raising awareness in BME families about how to find childcare and sources of financial support
- Monitor changes to benefit entitlements and their impact on childcare demand in disadvantaged areas
- Review working arrangements between Job Centre Plus and Swindon Sure Start Partnership childcare brokerage services

### 10.4 Inclusion

- Continue to deliver a training and qualification programme for childcare practitioners to support disabled children's needs
- Carry out more promotional work with parents about the support that is available
- Develop more targeted information for publication about childcare services for disabled children
- Work with parents to develop strategies to support the continuing use of childcare once a placement has started

### 10.5 Sufficiency

- Continue to work with parents to understand their needs for holiday childcare
- Continue to learn more about the childcare needs of BME communities in Swindon and not rely on national research and guidance to make local decisions